

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine with cylinder bores arranged in a cylinder drum, pistons which are axially movable in the cylinder bores and helical compression springs arranged in the cylinder bores, each said piston being pre-stressed against a swash plate by a respective single said helical compression spring which is supported against the cylinder drum, wherein each said spring has a reduction in diameter between the ~~upper and lower end~~ opposite ends thereof.
2. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein each ~~of the springs~~ [[is a]] said helical compression spring and in that the has a reduction in diameter that reduces the diameter ~~of the course~~ along the extent of the outer contour of the helical compression spring in a radially symmetrical circle at each point [[of]] about the center axis of the helical compression spring.
3. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein the reduction in diameter ~~is arranged~~ extends coaxially ~~with the centre~~ about the center axis of the helical compression spring.
4. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein the reduction in diameter reduces ~~the course~~ concavely along the axial length of the outer contour of the helical compression spring ~~concavely~~.

5. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein the reduction in diameter reduces the diameter of ~~the course of~~ the outer contour of the helical compression spring most ~~greatly~~ extensively at the ~~height of the centre~~ center along the axial length between the opposite ends of the helical compression spring.

6. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 5, wherein the reduction in diameter extends ~~from the upper end to the lower end~~ continually between the opposite ends of the helical compression spring.

7. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein the cylinder drum is pre-stressed against a control plate by the helical compression springs.

8. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein each said helical compression spring is supported in the region around an opening of the cylinder bore, which ~~can be connected~~ is selectively connectable to a high pressure or low pressure connection.

9. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein each said piston has a cutout which opens towards the cylinder bore.

10. (Previously Presented): An axial piston machine according to Claim 9, wherein the cutout is cylindrical.

11. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 9, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ each said helical compression spring is supported against the respective base of the cutout.

12. (Currently Amended): An axial piston machine according to Claim 1, wherein each said helical compression spring is made from and/or coated with spring steel.